



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/923,646	08/07/2001	Syed Ashfaq Mahmood	705443US2	1156
24938	7590	09/29/2005	EXAMINER	
DAIMLERCHRYSLER INTELLECTUAL CAPITAL CORPORATION			JEANTY, ROMAIN	
CIMS 483-02-19			ART UNIT	
800 CHRYSLER DR EAST			PAPER NUMBER	
AUBURN HILLS, MI 48326-2757			3623	

DATE MAILED: 09/29/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/923,646

Applicant(s)

MAHMOOD ET AL.

Examiner

Romain Jeanty

Art Unit

3623

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 07 August 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1-8 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Melchione et al "Melchione" (US Patent No. 5,966,695) in view of Burdick et al "Burdick" (US Patent No. 5,625,816)

As per claim 1, Melchione discloses method for identifying sales targets using a central database to improve marketing success. In so doing, Melchione discloses

creating the centralized database for maintaining the marketing data (col. 2, lines 39-51), compiling marketing data from the plurality of disparate data sources into the centralized database wherein the marketing data is compiled into the centralized database on a periodic basis (col. 6, lines 43-58; col. 10, lines 47-59). Melchione does not expressly disclose creating a venue specific database as a subset of data contained within the centralized database wherein the venue specific database is in a format specific to the venue, and providing access to the venue specific database through an interface module. Burdick in the same field of endeavor, discloses the concept of a local database (venue database) and accessing the local database (col. 6, lines 36-47). It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to modify the disclosures of Melchione to incorporate the teachings of Burdick in order to store and retrieving data locally.

As per claim 2, Melchione does not expressly disclose validating the marketing data before it is compiled into the centralized database. However, validation data is notoriously old and well known in the art for protecting the integrity of the data. It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to validate the marketing data of Melchione in order to prevent the validity of the data.

As per claim 3, Melchione further discloses wherein the plurality of disparate data sources comprise internal data sources, external data sources and legacy systems (col. 9, lines 47-59).

As per claim 4, Melchione and Burdick are silent with regard to the venue specific data comprises a markup language. However, it is old and well known in the art to utilize html. At the time of the invention, a person of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to use HTML to in order to language because of the user friendliness of ease of use of the language format data in markup language for easy retrieval of the data.

As per claim 5, Melchione is silent with regard wherein the interface module is an application programming interface. However, utilizing an application programming interface is old and well known in the art for easy access to information. It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to incorporate an application programming interface into the disclosures of Melchione and Burbick for enabling easy transport of the information.

As per claim 6, Melchione discloses a system and method for identifying sales target. In so doing, Melchione discloses collecting the marketing data for the product/service from a plurality of sources, aggregating the marketing data into a centralized database (col. 6, lines 43-58; col. 10, lines 47-59), extracting a subset of the marketing data from the centralized database

Art Unit: 3623

(i.e., retrieving data from the central database) (col. 21, lines 9-15). Melchione does not expressly disclose creating a venue specific database as a subset of data contained within the centralized database wherein the venue specific database is in a format specific to the venue, and providing access to the venue specific database through an interface module. Burdick in the same field of endeavor, discloses the concept of a local database (venue database) and accessing the local database (col. 6, lines 36-47). It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to modify the disclosures of Melchione to incorporate the teachings of Burdick in order to store and retrieving data locally.

As per claim 7, claim 7 recites the same limitations of claim 6 above; therefore is rejected under the same analysis relied upon of claim 6.

As per claim 8, claim 8 recite the same limitations of rejected claim 2 above; therefore is rejected under the same analysis relied upon of claim 2.

Conclusion

3. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

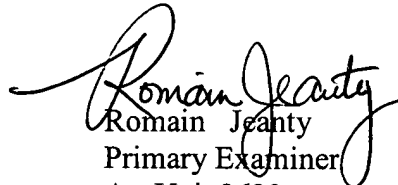
a. Jones et al (US Patent No. 6,925,441) discloses a method for gathering marketing data for conducting analysis.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Romain Jeanty whose telephone number is (571) 272-6732. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Thurs 7:30 am - 6:00 pm.

Art Unit: 3623

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Tariq R. Hafiz can be reached on (571) 272-6729. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Romain Jeanty
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3623
9/19/2005